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### **The Correlation of the Activities of the Church**

One of the chief hindrances to the proper organization of the work of the local church is the success of the separate activities of the church. For instance, in many churches the young people's society is a very successful organization. In the same church perhaps the missionary society is successful and the woman's club a failure, the Sunday school mediocre. In other churches these conditions are reversed. In no church where a single department is pre-eminently successful does that department feel inclined

to forego its pre-eminence, and unite with the other activities in such a way as to avoid duplication and give to each division its appropriate tasks and its appropriate means of expression. It is interesting to note that in some of the denominations those who have been appointed to direct the educational work of the denomination as a whole are undertaking to study this question of correlating the various educational activities of the church, and are requesting certain churches to try experiments upon the basis of which recommendations will be made to the denomination as a whole.

## **CHURCH EFFICIENCY**

### **A Community Church**

Mr. C. L. Cole, in the *Survey*, December 20, 1913, narrates as to what a rural community is doing socially and religiously. At one time in a community with a territory of approximately ten miles square and a population of less than seven hundred people, there were no less than twenty-four churches representing eleven denominations. Consequently much strife and contention among them were unavoidable. The main aim of each church was to enlarge its own membership. Fortunately, however, under a certain trend of circumstances, the number of these churches was decreased to three under the charge of one pastor.

Then the people saw that there must be a community church with sectarianism buried, that the gospel of Jesus Christ should dominate the community life, and that the church needs to serve the community. So the Christians of the community adopted a social program and set the young people

to work under the direction of the older people. The people of the community caught the spirit, and they united themselves with the Christians to ameliorate their common community. A social center with a reading-room, a library, and a restroom was opened. Free lectures from time to time were given on health, sanitation, tuberculosis, blindness, lectures to men by physicians, on rural schools, scientific farming, to young people, etc.

Religiously the community is doing well. It has secured a pipe organ for its church. The community as a whole supports a minister to attend to its most sacred duty. The Christians belonging to different denominations are united in their efforts for the common good. The church has now three hundred sixty active co-operating workers. There is a Sunday school with more than five hundred pupils. The finances of the church are provided for by a community-budget method.